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Agriculture — CBSE Class 10 Social Science Chapter Test

FREE CHAPTER TEST · CLASS X · SOCIAL SCIENCE (087) · PATTERN OF THE CBSE SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2026-27

TIME ALLOWED	MAXIMUM MARKS	QUESTIONS	NAME / ROLL NO.
1½ hours	40	20 (A 10 · B 4 · C 3 · D 1 · E 2)	

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains 20 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper is divided into five sections: A, B, C, D and E.
3. In Section A, Questions 1 to 8 are multiple choice questions (MCQs) and Questions 9 and 10 are assertion-reason based questions of 1 mark each.
4. In Section B, Q11–14 are very short answer (VSA) type questions, carrying 2 marks each.
5. In Section C, Q15–17 are short answer (SA) type questions, carrying 3 marks each.
6. In Section D, Q18 is a long answer (LA) type question, carrying 5 marks.
7. In Section E, Q19–20 are case study based questions, carrying 4 marks each, with sub-parts of the values of 1, 1 and 2 marks.
8. There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in 1 question of Section B, 1 question of Section C, 1 question of Section D and in the 2-mark sub-part of each question of Section E.
9. Answer very short answer questions in about 40 words, short answer questions in about 60 words, long answer questions in about 120 words and case-based questions in about 100 words.
10. This chapter test follows the section structure, question types and marks per question of the CBSE Class X Social Science (087) Sample Question Paper 2026-27, at about half the length of the 80-mark board paper: 40 marks in 1½ hours.
11. The answer key and the marking scheme are at the end of this booklet. Attempt the paper in 1½ hours before you look at them.

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Chapter: Agriculture (Geography: Contemporary India – II) · **Topics:** Types of farming · Cropping pattern and seasons · Major food crops · Non-food and plantation crops · Fibre crops · Technological and institutional reforms · Contribution of agriculture to the economy

SECTION A

This section comprises 10 questions of 1 mark each: 8 multiple choice questions (MCQs) and 2 assertion-reason based questions.

1. Which of the following is a rabi crop? 1

(A) Paddy
(B) Wheat
(C) Cotton
(D) Jute

2. Slash and burn agriculture is known as 'jhumming' in the north-eastern States of India. In Brazil it is called 1

(A) Milpa
(B) Ladang
(C) Roca
(D) Conuco

3. Which crop needs high temperature (above 25°C), high humidity and annual rainfall above 100 cm? 1

(A) Rice
(B) Wheat
(C) Bajra
(D) Gram

4. India is the largest producer as well as the largest consumer of 1

(A) tea
(B) coffee
(C) rubber
(D) pulses

5. Which crop is known as the 'golden fibre'? 1

(A) Cotton
(B) Jute
(C) Rubber
(D) Sugarcane

6. Which of the following oilseeds is grown both as a rabi and as a kharif crop? 1

(A) Linseed
(B) Mustard
(C) Castor seed
(D) Groundnut

7. Crops such as watermelon, muskmelon and cucumber, grown in the short season between rabi and kharif, are called 1

(A) zaid crops
(B) plantation crops
(C) kharif crops
(D) rabi crops

8. Rubber, an equatorial crop that needs rainfall of more than 200 cm and a temperature above 25°C, is grown mainly in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, and also in 1

(A) Rajasthan
(B) Punjab
(C) Haryana
(D) the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

9. **Assertion (A):** Black soil is ideal for the growth of cotton. 1
Reason (R): Cotton requires high temperature, light rainfall or irrigation, 210 frost-free days and bright sunshine for its growth.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

10. **Assertion (A):** Wheat is grown mainly in the north and north-western parts of India. 1
Reason (R): Wheat is a kharif crop that needs heavy rainfall of more than 100 cm.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

SECTION B

This section comprises 4 very short answer (VSA) type questions of 2 marks each.

11. (a) Distinguish between rabi and kharif crops, with two examples of each. 2

OR

(b) Describe primitive subsistence farming.

12. Give two geographical conditions required for the growth of sugarcane, and name the only country that produces more sugarcane than India. 2

13. Why are millets called 'coarse grains'? Name the leading producer State of jowar and of ragi. 2

14. What is plantation agriculture? Name two plantation crops. 2

SECTION C

This section comprises 3 short answer (SA) type questions of 3 marks each.

15. (a) Describe the geographical conditions required for the growth of rice, and name two States where it is grown. 3

OR

(b) Describe the geographical conditions required for the growth of wheat, and name its two important growing zones.

16. Distinguish between intensive subsistence farming and commercial farming. 3

17. Describe three technological and institutional reforms introduced to improve Indian agriculture. 3

SECTION D

This section comprises 1 long answer (LA) type questions of 5 marks each.

18. (a) Describe the geographical conditions and main growing areas of (i) tea, (ii) coffee and (iii) cotton, and explain (iv) why tea is labour-intensive and (v) what makes the black soil of the Deccan suitable for cotton. 5

OR

(b) 'Agriculture has been the backbone of the Indian economy.' Explain the contribution of agriculture and the challenges it faces today, and suggest measures taken to improve it (five points).

SECTION E

This section comprises 2 case study based questions of 4 marks each, with sub-parts of 1, 1 and 2 marks.

19. In States like Assam, West Bengal and Odisha, three crops of paddy are grown in a year: Aus, Aman and Boro. Availability of precipitation during the south-west monsoon period, the success of rabi crops depending on winter rainfall from western temperate cyclones, and the use of irrigation all shape India's cropping pattern.

(i) Name the three crops of paddy grown in a year in Assam, West Bengal and Odisha. [1]

(ii) Which weather systems help the success of rabi crops in north-western India? [1]

(iii) Explain the three cropping seasons of India, with one crop of each. [2]

OR

(iii) Why does India grow different crops in different seasons and regions? Give two reasons. [2]

20. Vinoba Bhave walked across the country to persuade landowners to donate land to the landless. Some zamindars, owners of many villages, offered to distribute some villages among the landless. This came to be known as the Bhoodan–Gramdan movement, also called the 'Bloodless Revolution'.

(i) Who started the Bhoodan–Gramdan movement? [1]

(ii) Why was it called the 'Bloodless Revolution'? [1]

(iii) Name two schemes introduced by the government for the benefit of farmers. [2]

OR

(iii) Why were land reforms needed after independence? Give two reasons. [2]

END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

ANSWER KEY — SECTION A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
(B)	(C)	(A)	(D)	(B)	(C)	(A)	(D)	(B)	(C)

MARKING SCHEME AND WORKED SOLUTIONS

Marks for each step are shown in brackets, as in the CBSE marking scheme. Any correct alternative method earns full marks.

Q1. Answer (B). Rabi crops are sown in winter (October to December) and harvested in summer (April to June): wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard.

Q2. Answer (C). It is Milpa in Mexico and Central America, Conuco in Venezuela, Roca in Brazil, Masole in Central Africa, Ladang in Indonesia and Ray in Vietnam.

Q3. Answer (A). Rice is a kharif crop of such conditions; in areas of less rainfall it grows with the help of irrigation.

Q4. Answer (D). India is the largest producer and consumer of pulses, the major source of protein in a vegetarian diet.

Q5. Answer (B). Jute grows well on well-drained fertile soils in the floodplains, where soils are renewed every year; West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Odisha and Meghalaya are the major producers.

Q6. Answer (C). Castor seed is grown both as a rabi and as a kharif crop; linseed and mustard are rabi crops, and groundnut is a kharif crop.

Q7. Answer (A). Zaid crops are grown during the summer months; vegetables and fodder crops are also zaid crops.

Q8. Answer (D). Besides Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, rubber is grown in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Garo hills of Meghalaya; Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana are far too dry.

Q9. Answer (B). Both true. Black soil suits cotton because of its moisture-retaining capacity; R gives the climatic needs, which do not explain why the soil is suitable. Answer (B).

Q10. Answer (C). A is true. R is false: wheat is a rabi crop that requires a cool growing season and bright sunshine at ripening, and 50 to 75 cm of rainfall evenly distributed over the growing season. Answer (C).

Q11. (2 marks) Answer: (a) seasons with examples; (b) small patches, primitive tools, family labour; monsoon and soil fertility, shifting patches.
(a) Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June — e.g. wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard. [1]
Kharif crops are grown with the onset of the monsoon and harvested in September–October — e.g. paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut, soyabean. [1]
OR (b) Primitive subsistence farming is practised on small patches of land with primitive tools such as the hoe, dao and digging sticks, and family labour. [1]
It depends on the monsoon, the natural fertility of the soil and the suitability of other environmental conditions; in slash and burn agriculture, patches of land are cleared and cultivated until fertility falls, and then a new patch is cleared. [1]

Q12. (2 marks) Answer: 21°C–27°C, hot and humid; 75–100 cm rain; Brazil.
Sugarcane is a tropical as well as subtropical crop that grows well in hot and humid climates with a temperature of 21°C to 27°C. [1]
It needs annual rainfall between 75 cm and 100 cm (irrigation is needed in regions of low rainfall); India is the second largest producer after Brazil. [1]

Q13. (2 marks) Answer: Coarse but highly nutritious; Maharashtra (jowar), Karnataka (ragi).
Jowar, bajra and ragi are important millets; though known as coarse grains, they have very high nutritional value — ragi, for example, is very rich in iron, calcium, other micro-nutrients and roughage. [1]
Maharashtra is the largest producer of jowar; Karnataka is the largest producer of ragi. [1]

Q14. (2 marks) Answer: Single crop on a large area, linked to industry; tea, coffee, rubber.
Plantation is a type of commercial farming in which a single crop is grown on a large area; it has an interface of agriculture and industry. [1]
Plantations cover large tracts of land using capital-intensive inputs with migrant labourers, and all the produce is used as raw material in industries — e.g. tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane, banana. [1]

Q15. (3 marks) Answer: (a) above 25°C, high humidity; above 100 cm rain or irrigation; plains, deltas, Punjab, Haryana; (b) cool season, sunshine; 50–75 cm; Ganga-Satluj plains and Deccan black soil.
(a) Rice is a kharif crop that requires high temperature (above 25°C) and high humidity. [1]
It needs annual rainfall above 100 cm; in areas of less rainfall it grows with the help of irrigation. [1]
It is grown in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal areas and the deltaic regions; canal irrigation and tubewells have made it possible in Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan. [1]
OR (b) Wheat is the main food crop in the north and north-west; it requires a cool growing season and bright sunshine at the time of ripening. [1]
It requires 50 to 75 cm of annual rainfall evenly distributed over the growing season. [1]
There are two important wheat-growing zones in the country — the Ganga-Satluj plains in the north-west and the black soil region of the Deccan; major producers are Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan. [1]

Q16. (3 marks) Answer: Intensive: small holdings, high labour and inputs for family needs; commercial: modern inputs for sale; rice example.
Intensive subsistence farming is practised in areas of high population on land holdings that are small; yields are raised through high doses of biochemical inputs and irrigation. [1]
Commercial farming uses higher doses of modern inputs — high yielding variety (HYV) seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides — to obtain higher productivity, and the produce is grown for sale. [1]
The degree of commercialisation varies: rice is a commercial crop in Punjab and Haryana, but a subsistence crop in Odisha. [1]

Q17. (3 marks) Answer: Land reforms and the Green and White Revolutions; crop insurance and cheap credit; KCC, PAIS, weather bulletins and MSP.
Land reforms were introduced after independence, and the Green Revolution (based on package technology) and the White Revolution (Operation Flood) were strategies to improve agriculture. [1]
Provision for crop insurance against drought, flood, cyclone, fire and disease, and the establishment of Grameen banks, cooperative societies and banks to give loans at lower rates of interest. [1]
The Kissan Credit Card (KCC) and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS); special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes on radio and television; and minimum support prices and remunerative prices for important crops. [1]

Q18. (5 marks) Answer: (a) tea, coffee and cotton conditions and areas; tea needs much labour; black soil holds moisture and nutrients; (b) backbone of economy; falling share; competition, low public investment; costly fertilisers; ICAR and other measures.

(a) (i) Tea grows well in tropical and subtropical climates with deep and fertile well-drained soil, rich in humus and organic matter; it needs warm and moist frost-free climate all through the year and frequent showers evenly distributed over the year. Major producers: Assam, the hills of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri (West Bengal), Tamil Nadu and Kerala. [1]

(ii) Coffee: the Arabica variety, initially brought from Yemen, was introduced in the Baba Budan Hills; its cultivation is confined to the Nilgiri hills in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. [1]

(iii) Cotton grows well in the drier parts of the black soil of the Deccan plateau; it needs high temperature, light rainfall or irrigation, 210 frost-free days and bright sunshine. Major producers: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. [1]

(iv) Tea cultivation is labour-intensive: it requires abundant, cheap and skilled labour (tea leaves are plucked by hand). [1]

(v) The black soil retains moisture for long and is rich in nutrients such as calcium carbonate, magnesium, potash and lime. [1]

OR (b) Agriculture has been the backbone of the Indian economy: it employs a large share of the population, provides food and raw materials for industries. [1]

Its share in GDP has been declining, which is a matter of serious concern, since decline in agriculture leads to decline in employment and income. [1]

Indian farmers face competition from international markets after globalisation, and reduction in public investment in agriculture, especially in irrigation, power, rural roads and research, has hurt them. [1]

Reduced subsidies on fertilisers have increased the cost of production. [1]

To improve, the government has set up institutions such as the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), agricultural universities, veterinary services and animal breeding centres, and promoted horticulture, research in weather forecasting and improvement of rural infrastructure. [1]

Q19. (4 marks) Answer: (i) Aus, Aman, Boro; (ii) western temperate cyclones; (iii)(a) rabi, kharif, zaid with examples; (b) varied soil and climate; water availability.

(i) Aus, Aman and Boro. [1]

(ii) Western temperate cyclones, which bring winter rainfall. [1]

(iii)(a) Rabi: sown October–December, harvested April–June (wheat); kharif: grown with the onset of the monsoon, harvested September–October (paddy). [1]

Zaid: a short season between rabi and kharif, in summer (watermelon, cucumber). [1]

OR (iii)(b) India has variations in soil, climate and relief, so different crops suit different regions and seasons. [1]

The availability of rainfall and irrigation in each season decides which crops can be grown. [1]

Q20. (4 marks) Answer: (i) Vinoba Bhave; (ii) voluntary, without violence; (iii)(a) KCC and PAIS; (b) concentration of land, small and insecure holdings.

(i) Vinoba Bhave. [1]

(ii) Land was given to the landless voluntarily, through persuasion, without any violence. [1]

(iii)(a) Kissan Credit Card (KCC). [1]

Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS) (or crop insurance, minimum support price). [1]

OR (iii)(b) Land was concentrated in the hands of a few landlords, while many cultivators were landless or had very small holdings. [1]

Fragmentation of land holdings and insecurity of tenure kept productivity and farmers' incomes low. [1]

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